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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

APR 5 9 00 AM '68

DATE DISTR. 7 APR 1949

SUBJECT Tire Production at the Bata Works, Zlin
(Gottwaldov)

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. Most of the motorcar tires exported to the USSR have been of the size 7.50-20 (for small delivery vehicles). No deliveries have been made yet this year. On 2 February it was reported that production of tires of this size had been limited.
2. At the end of January 1949 three Czechoslovak Army officers were negotiating in Zlin regarding deliveries of standard tires and also of shellproof tires. These tires were originally to be manufactured in Prague, but for security reasons production will probably be set up in Moravia, but most likely in Zlin.
3. On 29 January it was reported that tire production was handicapped by a shortage of chemicals, especially sulfur and carbonblex (a special kind of soot obtained by burning special oils imported from the USA).
4. Adolf Novotny, works manager of the tire shop, has been charged with being an unreliable member of the KSC and has been transferred to piece work, in spite of the fact that he is an expert, was efficient in his job, and was popular as shop manager.
5. By 20 February 1949 the supply of raw materials at the plant had fallen to the point where tire production could be kept going for only 27 days. Stocks of carbonblex would be exhausted in two weeks.
6. Since the stoppage of traffic of the firm Van Gent & Loos, Switzerland. The effect of costs 4 Kcs. more than it did when brought directly through Germany.

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Comment: Probably Van Gend & Loos, Voorburg, 35-37, Amsterdam.

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